CO

The Last Days of Some Popular Entertainments-Announcements of the Summer Shows-Coney Island Attract tions-Season at Manhattan Beach.

Blanche Ring begins her career as a dyamatic star at the Knickerbocker Theatre te-morrow night in a musical comedy called "The Blonde in Black," written by Harry B. Smith and composed by Gustave Kerker. The fact that the plot hinges upon the adventures of an American girl who goes abroad to teach the cake walk in Paris will give the proper clue to the sprightly character of "The Blonde." Harry Conor as a man milliner of the Parisian type ought to be a pleasing person. "The Blonde in Black" is under George W. Lederer's management, and he has chosen it for his annual summer show.

Good times have come at once to the William G. Stewart opera company at the Grand Opera House. "The Geisha," which it was at first proposed to present for only one week, has been so well received that it will be continued this week, and perhaps longer. Later on "The Smugglers of Badayez" will be given.

The popularity that falls to the lot of nearly all Casino productions seems to have been achieved by "The Runaways." It is said that even "A Chinese Honeymoon" did not make a better showing at the allimportant test of the box office

Mabelle Gilman and "The Mocking Bird" have not begun to wear out their welcome at the Bijou. "The Sly Musette," as sung by Miss Gilman, is one of the winning songs

Summer weather has brought "The Wizard of Oz" into even greater favor than partner, Montgomery, have lost none of their zest for the Scarecrow and the Tin Woodman. ever at the Majestic. Fred Stone and his

The 100th performance of "The Prince of Pilsen" at the Broadway Theatre will be given to-morrow night. Steins inscribed "Here's to the heart that beats for me" will be the appropriate souvenirs.

Many theatre parties have been arranged for this, the last week of "The Sultan of Sulu" at Wallack's. The piece will be presented for two weeks at Manhattan Beach, beginning on Saturday, June 27.

Dan Daly will close his engagement in "John Henry" at the Herald Square next Saturday night. "The Knickerbocker Girl," a musical comedy, will come to this theatre on June 15. Josephine Hall has

Lawrance D Orsay is now in name what star of "The Earl of Pawtucket," which has set out for a prosperous summer at the Manhattan Theatre. Among the changes in the cast are George Robinson as the resourceful Hooper and Frank Wiltse as Mr. Seafore.

Henry E. Dixey's time at the Garrick in "Facing the Music" and "A Welsh Rarebit has been extended indefinitely.

Jacob P. Adler's engagement in "The Merchant of Venice" at the Academy of Music, begun yesterday, is expected to last for a considerable time

The Murray Hill Theatre actors will play "The Late Mr. Jones," a comedy from the Theatre Royal, London, this week. Henry V. Donnelly will have a part in it, and Walter Allen and Nina Morris will return to the company.

The Pike Theatre company will begin a summer engagement at the West End The tre to-morrow night by presenting "The Charity Ball." Other plays of this class will be given in succeeding weeks.

The company has had seven successful A part of Mr. Farrell's report may be seasons in Cincinnati

"The Politician," in which Roland Reed used to act and, earlier than that, John T. Raymond, will be revived by Mr. Proctor's company at the Fifth avenue Theatre this Charles Abbe will be enrolled once more as a member of the troupe and will Impersonate Josiah Lumber.

La Belle Troja is in the leading place La Belle Troja is in the leading place at Proctor's Twenty-third Street Theatre, where she will appear in Van Tassel Sutphen's pathetic one-act Japanese play, "Cherry Blossoms," Emmett De Voy and company will be seen in "The Saintly Mr. Billings." Other features of a long bill are Clifford and Dixon in German dialoct comedy and Dorothy Neville, the character comedienne.

The actors at Proctor's 125th Street The actors at Proctor's 12sth Street
Theatre will present Henry Guy Carleton's
comedy drama, "Victor Durand."
"The Rajah," a melodrama of the best
kind, is announced for the week at Proctor's Fifty-eighth Street Theatre.
Edward Lang and company in "Princess
Florah," a comic opera travesty, are the
headliners of the week at Proctor's Newark
theatre.

Sunday concerts will be given at all the Proctor theatres in New York.

Charles Dickson is easily the leading feature at Keith's Theatre. This excellent feature at Keith's Theatre. This excellent comedian, supported by Marion Chap-man, will appear in a sketch called "Heart to Heart Talks." McIntyre and Heath will be seen in their skit, "Georgia Min-strels." The programme also offers Techow's performing cats, Musical Dale, the instrumentalist; Jules and Ella Garri-son, in travesty; Jordan and Welch, He-brew comedians, and the Althea Twins, song and dance artists. song and dance artists.

Tony Pastor will bring out a one-ac play by Paul Armstrong entitled "The Blue Grass Handicap," with Willis P. Sweatnam in the leading role Among the other nam in the leading rôle Among the other attractions will be Joe and Nellie Doner, singers and dancers; Irene Latour and Zaza, the posturing lady and the acrobatic dog; James and Sadie Leonard and company in "Going to the Dogs"; Evans and St. John, the "effervescent pair"; 'Mr. and Mrs. James P. Lee, assisted by Little Madeline, in "The Turning Point"; Renzetta and Belair, comedy acrobats; Cora Rogers and Little Marguerite in a singing and dancing specialty, and the Fitzgibbon-McCoy Trio, an Irish comedy alliance.

Will M. Cressy and Blanche Dayne will play "The Village Lawyer" at the Circle. ssie Greenwood, said to be the highest soprano in the world, is to sing. The programme includes, besides these favorites Cushman, Holcombe and Curtis in "The New Professor," James Richmond Glonroy, the "Man With the Green Gloves"; Ed F. Reynard and his automatons, Paul Stephens, pole-jumping acrobat, and the Twin Nices, singers and dancers. A concert is billed for to-night.

A merry week is assured at Hurtig & Seamon's Music Hall, where the following entermon's Music Hall, where the following entertainers are announced: John L. Kearney and May Duryea in Ædmond Day's skit entitled "The Impositor;" Jennie Yeamans, who will tell funny stories; Keno, Welch and Melrose in new acrobatic feats; the Wangdoodle Quartet, the Bates Musical Trio, the Meredith sisters in the popular "Hiawatha" song, Holden and Florence in a comedy and singing specialty, James Francis Dooley and Mullen with his dog Dixie. The usual Sunday concert is announced.

Hammerstein's Paradise roof garden bas attracted a large number of amuseintroduced in the vaudeville performance, but the Ricabons, the Hoosler Zouaves, the four Nightons, acrobats, remain. There will be a properly and the control of the contr will be a concert to-night.

Loie Fuller is still the brilliant star at the St. Nicholas Summer Garden. Jess Dandy and Adelaide Herrmann in her illusion, "The Sleeping Beauty, or a Dream in Midair," are on the bill, too.

The Lion Palace roof garden opened last night with German decorations, at-taches in German uniforms and costumes, a German singer, a German band and American vaudeville.

The cinematograph at the Eden Musée is showing a Swiss mountain climbing scene at d the Central Park zoo.

The Royce brothers, champion punchers, are at Huber's Museum. Antonio Majori, the Italian actor, will appear at eleven performances of standard plays in the Windsor Theatre, beginning

with a marinée to-day. The proceeds of four of the performances will be sent to the Kishineff sufferers. Brooklyn Theatres.

The comic opera company at the Orpheum will sing "The Jolly Musketeer" this week, Hubert Wilke appearing as François and Mary Carrington as Yvette.

The Spooner stock company will play "Don Cæsar de Bazan" at the Bijou Theatre

Coney Island Amusements. Milé. Cleodora's flight from the top of the

chutes to the lagoon while suspended by the braids of her hair is the sensation at Luna Park. Cameron's "Slide for life" is also a thriller. There is a fireworks ex-hibition at Luna Park every Saturday night. A spectacle called "Noah's Ark" will be

added to the attractions of Bostock's animal show at the Sea Beach Palace this week. The Manhattan Beach amusements this year will be directed by B. D. Stevens.

Pain's "Last Days of Pompeil" will begin at the amphitheatre on Saturday, June 20. Shannon's Twenty-third Regiment Band will give two concerts daily. The theatrical programme for the summer includes "The Sultan of Sulu," Dockstader's Minstrels, Mabelle Gilman in "The Mocking Bird" and the spectacle of "The Sleeping Beauty and the Beast."

Second Week of the Duss Concerts. For the second week of the summer cone rts at Madison Square Garden John S. Dues has arranged programmes including selections from Verdi, Wagner, Beethoven, Massenet, Gounod, Sousa, Rubinstein, Mendelssohn and Schumann. Thursday night will be a symphony night. The soloist for the week will be Carrie Bridewell, late contraits of the Maurice Grau Opera Company.

Operetta at Terrace Garden. At Terrace Garden to-morrow night and during the week Verdi's familiar opera "Il Trovatore" will be given. The cast will embrace Villa Knox as Leonora, Alice Galliard as Asucena, George Tallmass as Manrico and Harry Luckstone as the Count di Luna. At the concert this evening Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" will be the

Opera Company.

A LAND OF COPPER.

More Reports of the Wonderful Mines Katanga, Central Africa.

The remarkable mineral wealth that is being revealed in Katanga in the southeast part of the Congo Free State has already been referred to in THE SUN. Scarcely a month passes that further discoveries are not reported

At the last meeting in London of the pany. While the large territory conceded to the company has important gold re-

summed up in the words that he has found fifty-two beds of copper ore which he believes to be the richest source of copper in the world. Le Mourement Géographique says it will soon publish a summary of all the mineral discoveries made and a new map of Katanga based upon the atlas prepared by George Grey, who is directing the search for minerals in Katanga.

The company is preparing to make this great mining district easily accessible from the Atlantic Ocean. Several months ago, Robert Williams, manager of the company, paid into the hands of the Portuguese Government the sum of \$500,000 for which the company obtained a concession to build a railroad through Angola from the Atlantic to the great copper region of Katanga. The line will extend 800 miles through Portuguese territory in West Africa and 100 miles into the southeastern part of the Congo State. By this concession the company secured the right to exploit all the mineral resources that may be found for seventy-five miles on each side of the railroad.

On the other hand the Congo Free State is studying the possibility of connecting and so on. stanleyville, on the upper Congo, with Katanga by a railroad which will give a northern as well as a western outlet to the is not only soft but powerless, and they mining region.

Various Ways in Which the Fishes Head Up Against the Current.

The current set up by the inflowing water in a circulating aquarium tank makes a complete circuit of the tank. The fishes in such a tank often head up against this current for the sake of the air

there is in it. Most commonly when they do this they get right down at the intake opening, where the flow is strongest; which is to them like what sitting at an open window where a strong breeze was blowing in would be

to humans. The fishes may not all be able to get right at the opening, and so they cluster around it or near it. getting as close to it as they can; though sometimes they show a remarkable intelligence in so disposing themselves as not to blanket one another and yet all get practically an equal share of

Thus, in a tank at the New York Aquarium the other day, there were seen six catfishes all there were in the tank, arranged in echelon, and equally spaced, one from another, along the front of the tank, the first catfish up near the intake, the next one a little further away from it, the ne t one a little further along, and so on, each fish with its nose to the glass, and its body stretching back from it obliquely. The six fishes all had their heads in the current and came cach is a near a receible.

The six fishes all had their heads in the current, and came each as near as possible to getting the full benefit of it.

Sometimes fishes prefer to head up against the milder and more diffused upper current that flows more softly in the other direction in the upper part of the tank, this being in a way like getting out of the draught—like getting away from the window and sitting back in the middle of the room. Smaller fishes often head up against that upper current instead of the lower because the lower current, when the water first comes in, is a little strong for them, and they can get in the upper current all the freshness and air they want.

But all the fishes, great and small, like now and then in some manner to head up into the current.

BANKING 100 YEARS AGO. EXTRACTS OF THE HISTORY OF

Beginning of the Institution That Has Just Celebrated Its Centenary-Diffenities of the Early Days-Dodging Yellow Fever-Tale of Mixed Accounts.

THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL.

The Merchants' National Bank of this city celebrated last week the 100th anniversary of its existence, and issued a handsomely bound book giving a history of the institution from its founding to the present day. The early history of the bank is particu-

larly interesting. Fourteen men met at 25 Wall street on April 7, 1803, and signed articles of association of the Merchants' Bank in New York city. The articles were drawn up by Alexander Hamilton, and set forth that the capital stock should be \$1,250,000, divided into shares of \$50 each, \$2.50 to be paid down by the subscribers, and the remainder at such a time as the directors appointed.

On the first board of directors were such men as Oliver Wolcott, who was also the first president; Richard Varick, Peter Jay Munroe, Joshua Sands, Robert Gilchrist, James Rocsevelt and Henry A. Coster. Another meeting of the board of directors was held early in June in the same year,

and the bank was opened for business on June 2. The first bills were received for discount the next day, and the prosperity of the institution is shown by a statement issued after six months, which showed a net profit of \$35,250.

In November, 1803, a semi-annual divider d of 3 per cent, was declared, the first dividend of a series that has continued without interruption for 100 years. During that time the bank has paid to its shareholders the sum of \$14,765,162, or more than ten times the or ginal capital of the institution.

In those days the bank president didn't draw the big salary that is the rule nowadays. It is estimated that the cost of living 100 years ago was about one-fourth of what it is now and salaries were smaller in proportion. President Wolcott's salary was \$3,000. Lynde Catlin, the cashier, got \$2,500 with the privilege of living over the bank's rooms. The first teller received \$1,250, the first bookkeeper \$900 and other

\$1,250, the first bookkeeper \$900 and other bookkeepers \$750.

Banking entailed no end of difficulties in those days. There was a complicated currency, differing in various States. An old almanac gives this method of straightening out money value: "To reduce currencies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connectiout and Virginia to those of New York, to the given sum add 1-3 part thereof."

Counterfaiting was also so successfully ac-

to those of New York, to the given sum add 1-3 part thereof."

Counterfeiting was also so successfully accomplished that many banks throughout the country were swindled. Well-engraved plates were made and from them notes printed bearing the name of some imaginary bank. These were sent to parts of the country far away and many thousands of dollars' worth were passed.

Among the lirst minutes of the bank may be found the record of an extra meeting of the board of directors when it was decided to move the institution to Greenwich Village because of the prevalence of yellow fever. The bank was moved in August, 1803, and returned to its old quarters in the following November. This removal was considered so necessary that the bank bought \$15,887 worth of property and the business was transferred almost every summer.

and the business was transferred almost every summer.

The bank's business ran very smoothly for the first few years, according to the recently published history. There was a steady increase of salaries and the surplus rolled up in spite of occasional losses due to overconfidence in the honesty of minor employees.

m ployees.

The old records of the institution show a strange state of affairs in the conduct of the business. The number for 1829 contain these entries:

At the last meeting in London of the Tanganyika Concessions Company, a few weeks ago, a report was read from J. R. Farrell, a geologist who has just spent a year in Katanga in the service of the company. While the large territory conceded to the company has important gold resources, its greatest wealth is in the copper it contains.

A part of Mr. Farrell's report may be summed up in the words that he has found a few mount of \$3,297.60. The bookkeepers state that they have not yet had time since the taking off of the balance thoroughly to examine them, which they are now in the course of doing with as little delay as the pressure of business will allow.

The committee also inspected the balance the bookkeepers on the let inst., found them unfinished and as they now appear, to show a deficiency of debit or an excess of credit to the amount of \$3,297.60. The bookkeepers state that they have not yet had time since the taking off of the balance and they now appear, to show a deficiency of debit or an excess of credit to the amount of \$3,297.60. The bookkeepers are they now appear, to show a deficiency of debit or an excess of credit to the amount of \$3,297.60. The bookkeepers are they now appear, to show a deficiency of debit or an excess of credit to the amount of \$3,297.60. The bookkeepers are the books of the bank as taken by the books of the bank as taken by the books of the bank as taken by the books of the books of the bank as taken by the books of the bank as taken by the books of the b pressure of business will allow.

The committee finds sundry accounts overdrawn, which have so remained for several years and are bad, the parties having long since failed and become bankrupt. Why these overdrawings were not debited to profit and loss in the year 1819, when there was an order of the board to close all the overdrawn accounts which were known to be bad, the committee are not informed.

In the same year is the entry that the books had not been balanced for several years, so the bookkeepers were instructed to make every endeavor to find the errors. It was also ordered that thereafter the books should be balanced regularly every six months.

six months. aix months.

But in spite of what appears to be lax banking in its early days the institution passed safely through panics and the suspension of specie payments. The bistory contains much interesting information regarding banking in this city during the last hundred years. last bundred years.

THE LOBSTER'S ENEMIES.

It Is Preyed Upon and Destroyed by Many Bottom-Feeding Fishes.

"The lobster," said an old fisherman, has no greater enemy than the bottomfeeding fishes-blackfish, codfish, haddock

"They eat the lobster entire when they find one that has just shed its shell, when it may disable a lobster and then destroy it even when it is in fighting trim. Half LIFE IN AN AQUARIUM TANK, a dozen blackfish, for instance, might come across a lobster and manage to bite

off its legs and so partially disable it. "The lobster is agile, a quick and long jumper through the water, but the black-

jumper through the water, but the blackfish is quicker and it can easily keep up; and, the lobster finally disabled, it quickly finishes it. In this way a blackfish might get away with a lobster of considerable size.

"The codfish gets many—very likely the codfish knows the haunts of the lobster better than men do. The skate, clumsy as it is, gets some; if it can blanket a lobster, get one of its big flap-like pectoral fins over it, the skate gradually works the lobster up to its mouth, and holds it so while it eats it. The skate gets crabs in the same manner, and there is a fish called the crabeater.

eater.

"In fact, there is constant warfare going on at the bottom of the sea among the dwellers there in the struggle for existence, and the lobster among them has no greater enemy than the bottom-feeding fishes."

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